

In re: LARRY STRANGER.
FCIA Docket No. 00-0004.
Decision and Order filed May 4, 2000.

Donald McAmis, for Complainant.
Respondent, Pro se.
Decision issued by Dorothea A. Baker, Administrative Law Judge.

Pursuant to section (b) of the Rules of Practice Governing Formal Adjudicatory Administrative Proceedings Instituted by the Secretary, the Motion for Summary Judgment filed by the complainant, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), is granted on the grounds that there are no genuine issues of material fact.

On March 28, 2000, the complainant filed a Motion for Summary Judgment together with a Proposed Decision. No response was forthcoming from respondent within the applicable time period.

The respondent, Larry Stranger (Stranger), willfully and intentionally provided false information to FCIC or to the insurer with respect to an insurance plan or policy under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. §§ 1501 *et seq.*) when he conspired with, aided, and abetted Lawrence A. Grube (Grube) together with others to commit fraud and did commit fraud to obtain monetary benefits to which he was not entitled from the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. The scheme involved the collection of money through the concealment of production and the filing of false claims by Grube with the insurer.

Therefore, it is found that the respondent has willfully and intentionally provided false and inaccurate information to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation or to the insurer with respect to an insurance plan or policy under the Act (7 U.S.C. § 1506(m)).

It is further found that, pursuant to section 506 of the Act (7 U.S.C. § 1506), respondent, and any entity in which he retains a substantial beneficial interest after the period of disqualification has commenced, is disqualified from purchasing catastrophic risk protection for a period of one year and from receiving any other benefit under the Act for a period of five years. The period of disqualification shall be effective thirty five days after this decision is served on the respondent unless there is an appeal to the Judicial Officer pursuant to § 1.145 of the Rules of Practice Governing Formal Adjudicatory Administrative Proceedings Instituted by the Secretary.

If the period of disqualification would commence after the beginning of the crop year, and the respondent has a crop insurance policy in effect, disqualification will commence at the beginning of the following crop year and remain in effect for the entire period specified in this decision.

[This Decision and Order became final June 14, 2000.-Editor.]